

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for detecting a diabetic subject of Chinese descent ~~suffering from, at risk for developing, or suspected of suffering from~~ a nephropathy, ~~the method comprising the step of~~ [[;]] determining whether a sample from the subject has ~~at least one polymorphic sequence~~ sequences ~~selected from the group consisting of~~ comprising an I/D genotype of an ACE gene, ~~an M235T genotype of an AGT gene,~~ a (z-2) genotype of an ALR2 gene 5'-(CA) repeats, and ~~an~~ a C106T genotype of an ALR2 gene in the promoter region, ~~a G-308A genotype of a TNF- α gene, and~~ or a complement thereof,

wherein the presence of the polymorphic sequence indicates that the subject is ~~suffering from, or at risk for suffering from~~ developing the nephropathy, ~~provided that the ALR2 gene cannot be used alone for the determination.~~

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the sample is blood.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of ~~amplifying a gene selected from the group consisting of~~ the ACE, ~~AGT,~~ and ALR2 genes and TNF- α .

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the amplifying step is performed with primers having SEQ ID NO. 1 and SEQ ID NO. 2 for the I/D genotype of the ACE gene~~[[;]],~~ ~~SEQ ID NO. 3 and SEQ ID NO. 4 for the AGT gene;~~ ~~SEQ ID NO. 5 and SEQ ID NO. 6 for the TNF- α gene;~~ and SEQ ID NO. 7 and SEQ ID NO. 8 for a (z-2) genotype of the ALR2 gene, or SEQ ID NO. 9 and SEQ ID NO. 10 for a C106T genotype of the ALR2 gene in the promoter region.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein the subject is ~~suffering from,~~ at risk for developing, ~~or suspected of suffering from~~ Type 2 diabetes.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the I/D genotype comprises a DD genotype.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[3]]~~ 19, wherein the G-308A genotype comprises a GG genotype.

9. (Currently amended) An array for detecting a ~~subject of Chinese descent suffering from, diabetic subject~~ at risk for developing, ~~or suspected of suffering from~~ a nephropathy, comprising ~~at least one polymorphic sequence selected from the group consisting of: an I/D genotype of an ACE gene, an M235T genotype of an AGT gene, a (z-2) genotype of an ALR2 gene 5'-(CA) repeats, an~~ and a C106T genotype of an ALR2 gene in the promoter region, ~~a G-308A genotype of a TNF- α gene, and or~~ a complement thereof.

10. (Currently amended) The array of claim 9, wherein the ~~nephropathy is~~ subject is at risk for developing Type 2 diabetes.

11. (Previously presented) The array claim 10, wherein the I/D genotype comprises a DD genotype.

12. (Currently amended) The array of claim ~~10~~ 20, wherein the G-308A genotype comprises a GG genotype.

13. (Currently amended) A kit for detecting a ~~subject of Chinese diabetic subject~~ subject suffering from, at risk for developing, ~~or suspected of suffering from~~ a nephropathy, comprising:
an array comprising ~~at least one polymorphic sequence selected from the group consisting of: an I/D genotype of an ACE gene, an M235T genotype of an AGT gene, a (z-2) genotype of an ALR2 gene 5'-(CA) repeats, and~~ a C106T genotype of an ALR2 gene in the promoter region, ~~a G-308A genotype of a TNF- α gene, and or~~ a complement thereof; and

~~an~~ instructional material teaching how to determine whether the subject is ~~suffering from, or at risk for developing the nephropathy.~~

14. (Currently amended) The kit of claim 13, wherein the ~~nephropathy~~ subject is at risk for developing Type 2 diabetes.

15. (Previously presented) The kit of any of claim 13, wherein the I/D genotype comprises a DD genotype.

16. (Currently amended) The kit of any of claim ~~13~~ 21, wherein the G-308A genotype comprises a GG genotype.

17. (Currently amended) A kit for detecting a ~~subject of Chinese diabetic~~ subject suffering from, at risk for developing, ~~or suspected of suffering from~~ a nephropathy comprising:
primers for amplifying the gene ACE, AGT, and ALR2 genes ~~or TNF- α~~ ; and
~~an~~ instructional material teaching how to determine whether the subject is ~~suffering from~~, or at risk for developing the nephropathy

18. (Currently amended) The kit of claim 17, wherein the primers ~~are~~ comprise SEQ ID NO. 1 and SEQ ID NO. 2 for an I/D genotype of the ACE gene[[:]], ~~SEQ ID NO. 3 and SEQ ID NO. 4 for the AGT gene; SEQ ID NO. 5 and SEQ ID NO. 6 for the TNF- α gene; SEQ ID NO. 7 and SEQ ID NO. 8 for a (z-2) genotype of the ALR2 gene, or SEQ ID NO. 9 and SEQ ID NO. 10 for a C106T genotype of the ALR2 gene in the promoter region.~~

19. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the polymorphic sequences further comprise an M235T genotype of an AGT gene, or a G-308A genotype of a TNF- α gene.

20. (New) The array of claim 9, wherein the polymorphic sequences further comprise an M235T genotype of an AGT gene, or a G-308A genotype of a TNF- α gene.

21. (New) The kit of claim 13, wherein the polymorphic sequences further comprise an M235T genotype of an AGT gene, or a G-308A genotype of a TNF- α gene.

22. (New) The kit of claim 17, wherein the polymorphic sequences further comprise an M235T genotype of an AGT gene, or a G-308A genotype of a TNF- α gene.

23. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the primers used for amplifying further comprise SEQ ID NO. 3 and SEQ ID NO. 4 for an M235T genotype of the AGT gene; or SEQ ID NO. 5 and SEQ ID NO. 6 for a G-308A genotype of the TNF- α gene.

24. (New) The kit of claim 22, wherein the primers used for amplifying further comprise SEQ ID NO. 3 and SEQ ID NO. 4 for an M235T genotype of the AGT gene; or SEQ ID NO. 5 and SEQ ID NO. 6 for a G-308A genotype of the TNF- α gene.